

Federal Council BULLETIN

Vol. XXII, No. 4

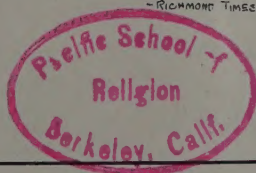


April, 1939

Your Help Is Urgently Needed



- RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH - MARCH 8, 1939



A JOURNAL OF INTERCHURCH COÖPERATION

Coming Events

A calendar of the more important national meetings of church organizations, so far as known to the BULLETIN, is published monthly in this column.

FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELISM New York, N. Y.	April 18, 1939
UNITING CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN METHODISM Kansas City, Mo.	April 26, 1939
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA Philadelphia, Pa.	May 24, 1939
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A. Cleveland, Ohio.	May 25, 1939
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES Montreat, N. C.	May 25, 1939
ASSOCIATION OF SECRETARIES, Y.M.C.A.'s OF NORTH AMERICA Toronto, Canada.	May 29-June 3, 1939
THIRD BIENNIAL INSTITUTE, A MOVEMENT FOR WORLD CHRISTIANITY New York, N. Y.	May 30-June 2, 1939
FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE New York, N. Y.	June 7, 1939
ANNUAL CONFERENCE, CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN Anderson, Ind.	June 7-13, 1939
REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA New York, N. Y.	June 8, 1939
FOREIGN MISSIONS CONFERENCE OF NORTH AMERICA Swarthmore, Pa.	June 9-16, 1939
NORTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION Los Angeles, Calif.	June 20-25, 1939
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND B.Y.P.U. CONGRESS OF THE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, U.S.A., (INC.) Tulsa, Okla.	June 21-25, 1939
ASSOCIATION OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES OF COUNCILS OF CHURCHES Lake Geneva, Wis.	July 4-7, 1939
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH WOMEN Lake Geneva, Wis.	July 6-9, 1939
WORLD CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIAN YOUTH Amsterdam, Holland.	July 24-August 2, 1939
CONTINUATION COMMITTEE, WORLD CONFERENCE ON FAITH AND ORDER Clarens, Switzerland.	August 21-24, 1939
SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE Milton, Wis.	August 22-27, 1939
NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, U.S.A. (INC.) Philadelphia, Pa.	September 6-10, 1939
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, DISCIPLES OF CHRIST Richmond, Va.	October 19-25, 1939

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Federal Council Bulletin

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in America*

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FEDERAL COUNCIL BULLETIN

A Journal of Interchurch Coöperation

Issued by

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA

CONSTITUTED BY TWENTY-FOUR NATIONAL COMMUNIONS:

Northern Baptist Convention
National Baptist Convention
Congregational and Christian Churches
Disciples of Christ
Evangelical Church
Evangelical and Reformed Church
Friends
United Lutheran Church
(*Consultative Body*)

Methodist Episcopal Church
Methodist Episcopal Church, South
African M. E. Church
African M. E. Zion Church
Colored M. E. Church in America
Methodist Protestant Church
Moravian Church
Presbyterian Church in U.S.A.
United Presbyterian Church

National Council of the Protestant
Episcopal Church
(*Coöperating Agency*)
Reformed Church in America
Reformed Episcopal Church
Seventh Day Baptist Churches
Syrian Antiochian Orthodox Church of
North America
United Brethren Church
United Church of Canada

VOL. XXII, No. 4

APRIL, 1939

THE EDITORIAL OUTLOOK

The Agony of God

I listen to the agony of God—

I who am fed,

Who never yet went hungry for a day.

I see the dead—

The children starved for lack of bread—

I see and try to pray.

I listen to the agony of God—

I who am warm,

Who never yet have lacked a sheltering
home.

In dull alarm

The dispossessed of hut and farm

Aimless and "transient" roam.

I listen to the agony of God—

I who am strong,

With health, and love, and laughter in my
soul.

I see a throng

Of stunted children reared in wrong

And wish to make them whole.

I listen to the agony of God—

But know full well

That not until I share their bitter cry—

Earth's pain and hell—

Can God within my spirit dwell

To bring His Kingdom nigh.

—Georgia E. Harkness.

Younger Churches Plead for Unity

In the West we have become so accustomed to denominational divisions that it is easy to forget how serious they are. In the younger churches, planted by missionary effort in Asia and Africa, where the Christians are small minorities in the midst of great non-Christian cultures, the handicaps appear in sharper light.

At the Madras meeting of the International Missionary Council last December one of the arresting incidents was the plea of leaders in the younger churches for unity. Reporting on the discussion which took place in one of the conferences, they said:

"The representatives of the younger churches in this section one and all gave expression to the passionate longing that exists in all countries for visible union of the churches. They are aware of the fact of spiritual unity; they record with great thankfulness all the signs of coöperation and understanding that are increasingly seen in various directions; but they realize that this is not enough.

"Union proposals have been put forward in various parts of the world. Loyalty, however, will forbid the younger churches going forward to consummate any union unless it receives the whole-hearted support and blessing of those through whom these churches have been planted. We are thus often torn between loyalty to our mother churches and loyalty to our ideal of

union. We, therefore, appeal with all the fervor we possess to the missionary societies and boards and the responsible authorities of the older churches to take this matter seriously to heart, to labor with the churches in the mission field to achieve this union, to support and encourage us in all our efforts to put an end to the scandalous effects of our divisions and to lead us in the path of union—the union for which our Lord prayed, through which the world would indeed believe in the divine mission of the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.”

The Care of Souls

Among the multitude of perplexing problems faced by the Church today none is more pressing, though less dramatic, than the recapture of power and skill in guiding and helping individual souls.

In mental hygiene, psychology, psychiatry and related subjects the religious worker may discover new insights about the human souls under his care. Though he will use his own methods rather than their techniques, he may rediscover in these new approaches to personality the meaning of principles which he has frequently affirmed but too little utilized.

On the other hand, he has his own distinctive spiritual resources, a deeper understanding of which will be of immeasurable help in fulfilling his pastoral function.

In some sense the clergyman always represents more than himself. A recognition of this may both make him more humble and be a great aid to his ministry. He has an extraordinary resource also in being related naturally to his parishioners both in the course of their personality development and in the crises of life.

Another resource available to the minister is the social groups of his parish. Many individual difficulties could be overcome if greater attention were paid to assisting people to discover the “natural therapies of life” involved in human relations. No distress of the soul can equal that of being isolated. As a fellowship the Church overcomes the feeling of estrangement and makes workable the brotherhood of man through the worship of God the Father.

The religious leader should have a thorough

grounding in the insights of modern mental hygiene, not merely to help him in counselling with individuals in difficulty but also to enable him to see opportunities where his distinctive resources may be put to work in the prevention of mental and moral and spiritual ills. Important as it is, however, diagnosis is not enough for the religious leader. To the cure and care of souls he brings supremely the redeeming medicine of the Gospel and the Church of Christ.

City Church and Country Church

A few home mission board secretaries have received a most significant letter from the wife of a young country minister, written after ten years of service in rural communities. Ten years ago, she says, rural church leaders told the young couple to be patient—things would happen in the rural field. Many wonderful things have happened, she adds, in their own church and community, but her heart bleeds as she thinks of the numerous young ministers who are giving up country work, going through the traditional steppingstones from small country churches into larger places in towns and cities—in spite of strong resolutions many of them once made to stay in the country. She insists that permanent rebuilding of the country church is generally not taking place, largely because of shifting leadership.

Isn't it possible, she asks, to have home mission money—or a small part of it—“put into *coöperative* fields” to support the young ministers who want to stay in the country? Isn't it possible to provide such a situation in the rural churches as to “thrill seminary students with the need for them in *permanent* work in the country churches?”

The letter calls to mind the observation made by a home mission executive who had spent many years in contacts with rural areas and then was suddenly plunged into relations with numerous city churches. He was forced to conclude, he says, that city churches face situations as difficult as those faced by country churches. A New York lawyer has even commented that instead of the city churches helping the country churches, the country churches will have to help the city

churches—because it is in the country that the spirit of old-fashioned sacrifice still lives.

Do these observations not indicate that it is time for facing the city church situation and the country church situation together, in the spirit of Christian fellowship, neglecting neither?

Conscience and War Supplies

Profits from the sale of war materials to Japan are irksome to many Christians. Reports come from numerous quarters of men and women who are registering their strong protests with firms which are exporting such war supplies.

The Federal Council, in line with its official policy, has been encouraging insistent protest by church people who own stocks and bonds which produce profit in "blood money." The Christian conscience is stultified if it does not express itself on this issue.

Such protest by large numbers of people has its moral effect, especially when it is accompanied by an expression of willingness to forego the profits derived from involvement in unjust aggression and outrages against civilians.

Lessons from the University Christian Mission

What have we learned in getting the Christian cause into the heart of the state universities?

1. This matter could not be approached denominationally. We could never have been given full sway on state university campuses had we represented single denominations. Only as we came representing the total Christian forces could we make Christianity a vital issue.

2. Not what we have accomplished, but what possibilities have been opened up is the main outcome of this mission. The state universities are now open and eager for this and in most cases have then and there urged us to come back. The door is open to win the thinking mind of this country to Christ.

3. We think we have worked out a technique by which a positive evangelism can be presented to universities, and perhaps elsewhere. A lot of the old mass evangelism has been discredited because it embarrassed people publicly and tried to jam them all into one mold. We felt we could

keep the positive side and do away with these objectionable features by using the following technique: At the close of an address we would say to an audience that there are possibly four classes: First, there are those who should go quietly home and settle the matter alone with God; it would do no good to try to do anything publicly. But the group that can do this is comparatively small. Second, there are those who cannot do this alone, they must talk with someone in personal conference. We then told them how and when they could see the members of the team personally. Third, there are those who have questions and objections which they must raise before they go on. Fourth, there are those who have no particular questions, but who want to know the steps to finding God, for they want to take them. We asked the last two classes to stay and the rest quietly and quickly left.

4. We felt that in calling it a university mission instead of a student mission we bridged the gap between the two generations. The younger generation resents having something put over on them by an older generation which has scarcely earned the right to do so. But by approaching the issue together we obviated that difficulty. The fact is that the trouble with many students is that often some professor has pulled out foundations without giving anything in return. But this further word must be said: the professors of the state universities are not on the whole a godless bunch; on the contrary many of them are the very salt of the earth, some of the finest Christian men I have ever met.

5. We hunted for hot spots on the campus. We found that war, race, economic injustice, sex, compulsory military training and other things were often mentioned as the hot spots. But in the end we found that there was only one really hot spot—the need of moral and spiritual change, in other words, conversion. This generation of youth is living on leftovers from a previous generation and most of it is thin, precarious and inadequate. They need God for themselves to give basis for personal living, for social change, for morality, and for a meaning to their universe.

E. STANLEY JONES

(abbreviated from the *Christian Century*)

China Relief Gains Momentum

A RECENT dispatch to the Church Committee for China Relief concerning a single region gives a sidelight on the magnitude of the problem with which the Committee is dealing:

"The calamity-stricken area in North Kiangsue alone, as a result of war and flood, covers 10,000 square miles. No accurate statistics of the dead are available; but the corpses already buried amount to 200,000. Homeless refugees are estimated to be more than 4,000,000. Those in urgent need of relief still amount to 2,855,425, including men, women and children."

Commenting on this dispatch, the most recent publication of the Committee says:

"This report from one small area only twice as large as Connecticut is a sample of the need the Church Committee is trying to help you meet. When you read these figures and pause to think about these 2,855,425 refugees in one area, do you have any real understanding of what they mean in agony of body, mind and soul? Are we so dazed by numbers that we say 'a million men and women' as glibly as we might say 'a million dollars' or 'a million bushels of corn'?"

There are American missionaries in China today who, for the rest of their lives, will be awakened from their sleep with haunting visions of little pot-bellied babies and small children, with spindling legs and begging eyes—passing in endless procession beside their beds crying

for food they did not have to give! These devoted men and women, who are giving their lives in service to the missions in China, have the heart and the equipment to minister to this devastating human misery. But they need money for supplies of all kinds. They need food, medicines, clothing, shelter and provision for maternal and infant care, as they minister to all forms of sickness, including agony from wounds and slow starvation."

"ONE DOLLAR A MONTH CAN SAVE A LIFE IN CHINA!"

According to the estimates of the American Advisory Committee in Shanghai, through which the funds raised in America are distributed, \$32,000 per week is needed during the spring in order to meet the minimum needs.

Faced with the continuing tragedy in China, the Church Committee for China Relief has voted to carry on its activities for another year, *i. e.*, until the summer of 1940, unless greatly improved conditions should make it possible to discontinue the appeal earlier.

One of the best-informed Americans on China, Rev. George W. Shepherd, for many years a missionary and more recently Honorary Advisor of the New Life Movement in China, has just arrived in this country from Chungking, the new capital of China. Mr. Shepherd is available as a speaker throughout the United States in behalf of the Church Committee for China Relief. The address of the Committee is 105 East 22nd Street, New York.

Easter on the Radio

THE schedule of Holy Week broadcasts directed by the Federal Council's Department of National Religious Radio over the facilities of the National Broadcasting Company for the period leading up to the Easter climax is as follows:

Monday, April 3, at 12:30 P.M., over WEA and Red Network—Rev. Dr. Harold Paul Sloan—"The Open Empty Sepulchre as Historic Fact"

Tuesday, April 4, at 12:30 P.M., over WEA and Red Network—Rev. Dr. Jesse M. Bader—"Where to Look for Help When Burdens are Heavy"

Wednesday, April 5, at 12:30 P.M., over WEA and Red Network—Rev. Dr. William Hiram Foulkes—"Life for a Look!"

Thursday, April 6, at 12:30 P.M., over WEA and Red Network—Rev. Norman Vincent Peale—"Make Room for Silence in Your Life."

Friday, April 7, at 12:30 P.M., over WEA and Red Network—Rev. Dr. Lloyd Ellis Foster—"The Mystery and Meaning of the Cross"

Saturday, April 8, at 6:45 P.M., over WEA and Red Network—Rev. Dr. Walter W. Van Kirk—"Easter in the News"

Sunday, April 9, at 10:00 A.M., over WEA and Red Network—Rev. Dr. Ralph W. Sockman—"The Life Invincible." At 4:00 P.M., over WJZ and Blue Network—Rev. Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick—"That Unescapable Future Tense."

The hours indicated in the schedule are Eastern Standard Time.

From dawn until 9:30 A.M. on Easter Sunday all stations of the National Broadcasting Company will share in presenting the great sunrise services held out-of-doors in various parts of the country.

A new voice will be heard over the air in the Federal Council's program on June 1, when Dr. Joseph R. Sizoo, minister of the Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas, New York, and Vice-President of the Federal Council of Churches during the last biennium, will begin a series of messages to be delivered each Tuesday at 12:30.

Since October 1, 8,700 letters have come to the National Broadcasting Company in connection with the religious broadcasts sponsored by the Federal Council. Great numbers of these letters make requests for copies of the messages delivered over the air.

Mental Hygiene and Pastoral Relations

THE Federal Council's Committee on Religion and Health, in coöperation with Union Theological Seminary, has announced a conference on "Mental Hygiene and Pastoral Relations" to be held at the Seminary July 24-28, 1939. Among the leaders of the conference will be Rev. Harold L. Bowman, Chicago; Karen Horney, M.D., New York; Dr. Erich Fromm, New York; Prof. Robert L. Calhoun, Yale Divinity School, Harry Bone, Ph.D., New York; Rev. Otis R. Rice, Irvington, N. Y.; Prof. Harrison S. Elliott, Union Seminary; Mrs. Grace L. Elliott, New York; and Rev. Seward Hiltner, Secretary of the Federal Council's Committee.

The conference is open to ministers and other religious workers, both men and women. Its purpose is to serve as a practical guide to those who wish clarification on the personal aspects of their ministry in the light of modern personality study. The outline is practical, the general topics on each of the five days being: the problems, their sources, their solutions, the pastor's task, and religious implications. The conference will meet through the whole of each morning. Small seminar meetings will be held on two afternoons, and an informal conference will be held on one of the evenings. Information in reference to enrollment may be secured from the Seminary; the Committee on Religion and Health will be glad to answer inquiries as to the content of the conference.

It is the hope of the Committee that it may coöperate in a similar way with other seminaries, councils of churches, ministers' associations, and other groups.

FOR BETTER PASTORAL CARE

February 27 marked the conclusion of a course on "New Light on Pastoral Problems" conducted for eight successive Monday evenings at the General Theological Seminary under the joint sponsorship of the Federal Council's Committee on Religion and Health and the three church federations of New York City. Thirty ministers registered for the course, from eleven communions. Each session was divided into two parts, a lecture and discussion and small seminar groups. Among the leaders of the course were Smiley Blanton, M.D., Rev. Robert E. Brinkman, Dr. George E. Daniels, Miss Eleanor Neustaedter, Dr. Bone, Mr. Rice, and Mr. Hiltner. The chairman of the planning committee was Rev. Norman Vincent Peale. Members have requested that a similar course be given next year.

Forty ministers gathered in Clarksburg, W. Va., on February 13 and 14 to participate in a conference on pastoral care sponsored jointly by the Clarksburg Ministerial Union and the Federal Council's Committee on Religion and Health. More than a dozen denominations were represented. Leaders of the conference were Dr.

Bone, Mr. Hiltner, and Rev. Fred C. Kuether, Jr., Chaplain of the U. S. Industrial Reformatory, Chillicothe, Ohio. Among the subjects given consideration during the eleven hours of discussion were: the place of mental hygiene in Christianity; character, how it is formed, deformed, reformed; how the pastor uses mental hygiene; and the distinctive functions of the pastor. A communion service was the climax of the conference's worship program.

The Asbury Church, Crestwood, N. Y., enlisted the aid of the Federal Council's Committee on Religion and Health in planning for a course on "Faith and Health" during five Wednesday evenings in Lent. About thirty persons attended. Leaders were Rev. Seward Hiltner, who spoke on "The Relevance of Religion to Health"; Dr. Edward J. Humphreys, Director of Research at Letchworth Village, whose topic was "Religion and a Healthy Mind"; Rev. Robert A. Preston, Director of Education at New Jersey State Hospital, who spoke on "Religion and Personality Disorders" and "Developing Healthy Religion in Children"; and Rev. Rollo May, pastor of the First Congregational Church, Verona, N. J., whose subject was "How Our Idea of God Affects Health."

Coöperative Study Tours

Dr. J. Henry Carpenter, Chairman of the Federal Council's Committee on the Church and Coöperatives, has announced arrangements for a tour of European co-operatives and also a tour of coöperatives in Nova Scotia this coming summer.

The European study group will sail from New York July 1, going directly to Denmark to visit coöperatives, folk schools and housing projects there. The party will visit rural and urban coöperatives in Finland, which do nearly 40 percent of the retail business of the country, and in Sweden, Norway, and Scotland. The group will then spend several days in the "cradle of coöperation" at Rochdale, England, and close with trips to France and Switzerland, arriving in New York September 3. Leaders of the Tour, in addition to Dr. Carpenter, will include Rev. James Myers, Industrial Secretary of the Federal Council of Churches, and Monsignor Luigi Ligutti, president of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference.

The Third Annual Tour of Nova Scotia Coöperatives will be held August 21 to September 2, under the direction of Dr. Hartly Hartman of Brooklyn.

Full information as to costs may be secured from the Federal Council's Committee on the Church and Co-operatives, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York.

United Advance in Evangelism

ON March 24 at the University of Oklahoma the University Christian Mission for the academic year 1938-39 came to a successful conclusion. Since January 1, the Mission has visited 14 campuses in the South, the East, the Middle West and the Far West. As illustrative of the impression made by this united approach of the Christian forces to educational institutions, Miss Elizabeth Cowan, Secretary of the Y. W. C. A. at the University of Kentucky, writes concerning the mission held there February 19-24:

"It was certainly the most significant event which has ever taken place on our campus. There is ample evidence that a new and more vital interest on the part of the faculty and students in religion has resulted."

In many cases the university authorities, the faculty and the students have already united in inviting the University Christian Mission to return to the campus next year. From other institutions which have heard of what has taken place in the institutions visited this year more invitations have come than it is possible to accept during the whole academic year 1939-40.

In preparation for the University Christian Mission of next year Rev. Robert B. Giffen will become Campus Secretary on May 1, having been released for the year by the Interchurch Council of the University of Chicago in order to provide leadership for the national program.

Preparations for the National Christian Mission of 1940, which will build on the foundation laid by the National Preaching Mission of 1936, are already well

advanced. As a result of the interest shown by the Provisional Committee of the World Council of Churches at its meeting in Paris in January, the churches of other lands are becoming interested in the possibility of joining in an advance program of evangelism simultaneously with the United States in 1940. From faraway Australia word has come to Dr. Jesse M. Bader, who will serve as Director of the National Christian Mission, that the Presbyterian Church of that continent is planning to join in the 1940 Mission. It is hoped that the churches of so many other countries will become interested that a World Christian Mission will result.

The influence of the Preaching Mission of 1936 still continues to be felt in many places, even in small communities. In Apache, Okla., six local ministers in February conducted a united preaching mission for an entire week, holding morning services in the high school, noonday services for business men and evening popular meetings. An extension program carried the influence of the Mission out into the rural areas of the county, including 14 rural schools.

The spring meeting of the Federal Council's Department of Evangelism will be held on April 18, when plans will be perfected both for next year's University Christian Mission and for the National Christian Mission of the following year. At this meeting Dr. John R. Mott, Chairman of the International Missionary Council and Vice-President of the Federal Council of Churches, will give an address on "The Larger Evangelism."

Friendly Refugee Policy Is Urged

AT the meeting of the Federal Council's Executive Committee held on March 24, strong action was taken supporting America's historic policy of friendliness toward refugees and opposing any curtailment of immigration quotas at this time. The statement on this subject, as adopted by the Executive Committee, was as follows:

"The dispossessed and persecuted of Europe, seeking asylum in other countries, confront America with a problem of national policy which is of deep concern to the churches. As Christians we have a responsibility for suffering human beings as children of our common Father wherever they may be. As Americans we are committed to the tradition of offering the refuge of a free land to victims of oppression. Pilgrims, Puritans, Quakers, Huguenots, Scotch-Irish and Moravians have been among those who have fled to this land for religious or political reasons and have here shared in building our institutions of liberty. Those who would now come have the same need and give promise of making their valuable contribution to American life. Many of them are blood relatives of useful and loyal American citizens.

Objection is raised in some quarters to admitting refugees in a period of economic depression when many Americans are unemployed; but we would point out that these people would be consumers as well as producers and also that many of them are highly competent and are able to produce new employment in new industries. However, even if they were not an economic asset as well as a liability, we would still have a Christian responsibility to them.

"We, therefore, urge our government to maintain its historic policy of friendliness to refugees. We oppose legislative proposals which would suspend immigration at this time or curtail the established quotas."

MILITARY AVIATION IN CIVILIAN COLLEGES

On recommendation of the Department of International Justice and Goodwill, a second statement was adopted expressing concern over the proposal of the national government for training pilots for military aviation in civilian schools and colleges. The statement on this subject was as follows:

"The Federal Council of Churches expresses grave misgivings over the recommendation of the President to

train 20,000 pilots a year in our civilian colleges and universities, in view of its bearing upon the policies of the national government with reference to education. This suggested program may constitute a dangerous invasion of our educational system for military purposes.

"The Chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Authority announces that 'if Congress approves the plan and appropriates the \$10,000,000 necessary to carry it out as recommended by the President in his Message of January 12 on National Defense, it will be put into effect next fall in several hundred educational institutions all over the United States.' We have been informed that these plans have been made without consulting the colleges generally. Such a procedure seems to indicate that the

national government assumes that it is appropriate for it to mobilize civilian education for its own ends. So far as church colleges are concerned, such an assumption is particularly unwarranted.

"If our democratic traditions and institutions are to be maintained, private education must be guarded against invasion by the national government for military or other purposes.

"We therefore urge the Congress to scrutinize carefully the President's proposal and the plan for putting it into effect, and we insist upon the maintenance of the independence of our civilian colleges and universities as indispensable to the preservation of democracy and religious liberty."

Friends of Democracy, Inc.

DURING 1937 a number of friends of Rev. L. M. Birkhead, Kansas City, rallied to form "Friends of Democracy" of which he is now the National Director. Many people in the Middle West were seriously disturbed by anti-democratic tendencies originating from certain men who sought public leadership by an appeal to prejudice reminiscent of the campaigns of the Ku Klux Klan and other bodies seeking to "save America for White Protestants." In recent months, there has emerged a large number of propagandizing organizations,—many running into tens of thousands of members, others having but a small clientele,—which command attention by attacks of an anti-Negro, anti-Semitic or anti-labor emphasis. The Friends of Democracy decided to incorporate and to open an office in the East in order to reach the large centers of population along the Atlantic seaboard. The Eastern office is at 103 Park Avenue, New York.

Friends of Democracy is sponsored by a nationally known committee whose members include a wide variety of persons: Dr. R. A. Millikan of California; Louis Bromfield, of Ohio; Dr. W. B. Cannon of Cambridge, Mass.; writers like Stanley High, Westbrook Pegler, Van Wyck Brooks; educators like John Dewey, Prof. E. A. Steiner, Prof. A. J. Carlson, Prof. Jaszi; economists such as Paul Douglas; churchmen like Dr. Frederick M. Eliot and Bishop Bromley Oxnam; professional and business men like P. H. Calahan of Louisville and Frank P. Walsh of New York.

The program of Friends of Democracy is designed to accomplish certain specific ends:

1. To defend the Constitution of the United States, with particular reference to the Bill of Rights as the bulwark of democracy.
2. To uphold democracy against Nazi, Fascist, and Communist movements in America.
3. To develop loyalty to democracy by safeguarding freedom of speech, press, pulpit, and assembly against radicals and reactionaries.

4. To conserve the best from the past and yet to devise intelligent modifications necessitated by the ever-changing future.

The major project at present is the distribution of literature for the masses in simple, vivid, and direct language. This distribution is furnished free to existing organizations or responsible group leaders. Several hundreds of thousands of leaflets have been distributed. A new series interpreting essential elements of our democratic way of life is now being published.

A news service is being contemplated prepared especially for town and country newspapers, associational periodicals, and journals. This will feature signed editorials by great personalities, cartoons, news items, results of research, legislative data pertaining to the defense of democracy. A speakers' bureau will provide skilled leadership at nominal expense for community assemblies, women groups, service groups, forums, and churches. Research will be carried on in the interest of securing data upon anti-democratic movements, their propaganda devices, and activities. A national high-school essay contest on the Bill of Rights is projected to begin first in New England and eventually to reach all sections of the country.

Coöperation is desired from those who will volunteer to distribute the free literature, arrange for special meetings in local communities, commend local leaders who are earnestly serving the public welfare, develop local educational leadership for democracy, and contribute to the general work of Friends of Democracy. It will need the hearty coöperation of the religious forces of America if it is to achieve its purpose of increasing the effectiveness of democracy.

PHILIP ALLEN SWARTZ,

(Dr. Swartz, for four years a secretary of the Federal Council of Churches, resigned on February 1 to become Eastern Regional Director of "Friends of Democracy, Inc."—Editor.)

A Step Forward in Race Relations

Because of their long concern with education for Negroes the churches are bound to be deeply interested in the outcome of the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Lloyd Gaines case. This is the case, it will be remembered, of a well qualified Negro who applied for admission to the law school of the University of Missouri, which has hitherto accepted white students only.

The young man's application having been refused on account of color alone, he took his case up the long road which Negroes have had to traverse again and again in their efforts to secure justice; first to the lower courts, then to the State Supreme Court, and finally to the highest court of the land. The Supreme Court ruled that in denying him admission to its law school the State of Missouri had failed to live up to the provisions of the Constitution; that the offer to pay his tuition in a law school in another state was not "equal rights," and that the university must either admit him or provide a law school for Negro students within the State.

That this decision goes to the heart of the dual system of education has been quickly recognized. Quick, too, have been suggestions for meeting—or avoiding—the problem. In one State legislation has been introduced to provide for a Negro graduate school, but with no funds to run it. In another State it is intimated that it might be desirable to abolish the state-supported law school altogether. One influential editor recognizes that the decision gives Negroes the legal right to enter state universities but hopes they will not be so unwise as to use that right! The student paper at the University of Missouri, however, welcomed the decision of the Supreme Court as giving that institution the opportunity "to pioneer the nation out of this last frontier of racial prejudice."

Many a weary up-hill struggle lies ahead before there will be really equal opportunity for Negroes. Each time, however, that their human rights are reaffirmed the road toward justice becomes a bit easier to travel. The Gaines decision should add new impetus to all efforts to give reality to the Christian principle of brotherhood.

KATHERINE GARDNER

What Happened Overnight

Two young Czech pastors, members of the Czech Brethren Church, have been in this country since last year on graduate fellowships, one at Princeton, the other at Hartford Theological Seminary. They had pastorates—from which they were temporarily released in order to accept the American fellowships—homes, families, country. These two men—Mr. Krejci and Mr. Dobias—went to bed on March 14th as citizens of Czecho-Slovakia; they woke up on March 15th as exiles—with no jobs, their families in distress, perhaps in danger. To return

home means to court imprisonment by a regime which measures "good" citizens by their willingness to sell their country out to the all-powerful Nazi Party. To remain away means to abandon career and country.

Just two individuals out of hundreds of thousands of their kind who are still asking themselves: "Can this really be happening?" Two lives wholly changed by events they had no hand in shaping.

Yesterday the Central Bureau for Relief of the Evangelical Churches of Europe (297 Fourth Avenue, New York) was busy trying to help the Czech Brethren Church to recover from the hard blow of the Munich Pact; today it is seeking aid for those who, like the two pastors mentioned above, were caught far from home when Czecho-Slovakia ceased to be.

Worship on Mother's Day

For the guidance of ministers and others who may conduct services of worship on Mother's Day (May 14) the Federal Council's Committee on Marriage and the Home has prepared an order of worship which is designed to encourage the recognition of the day as "the Festival of the Christian Home." The simple order of worship is available free of charge in mimeographed form on request to the Council accompanied by an addressed and stamped envelope. The order of worship was prepared by Professor Howard Chandler Robbins of the General Theological Seminary, New York.

When the Federal Council's Committee on Worship issued its outline of "The Christian Year" it recognized that Mother's Day is widely observed and therefore included it in the calendar. At the same time the Committee on Worship felt that the observance of the day is often superficial and sentimental rather than deeply religious. The suggestion that the day be observed as "the Festival of the Christian Home" was made in the hope that it might result in a greater emphasis upon the spiritual values of Christian family life.

New Rural Church Leaflets

The 1939 editions of two rural church circulars have been published by the joint Committee on Town and Country of the Home Missions Council and the Federal Council of Churches. One of these is entitled "Suggestions for the Observance of Rural Life Sunday," May 14, 1939.

The second title is "Continuing Education for the Minister in Town and Country—1939." This publication lists 33 special summer schools, institutes, seminars and conferences of interest to ministers in smaller communities. Included are such items as the kinds of courses offered and the cost of attending schools.

Single copies of these publications may be secured at three cents each and special rates are quoted on quantities.

A new "Guide to the Literature of Rural Life," listing

500 titles of books and pamphlets, has been issued by the Federal Council's Department of Research and Education, compiled by Benson Y. Landis. The list is classified and annotated. The emphasis is on inexpensive and non-technical materials. The purpose is to provide an introductory survey of the extensive literature now available. Single copies of the pamphlet sell at ten cents.

World Conference of Youth

The latest in the series of notable ecumenical conferences is the "World Conference of Christian Youth," which is to be held in Amsterdam, Holland, July 24 to August 2, 1939. Its general theme is to be "The Christian Community in the Modern World." It is already clear that the full attendance of fifteen hundred young people from the different churches and Christian youth movements of the world will assemble in Amsterdam. The delegation from the United States is to consist of two hundred and eighty, appointed by the various young people's organizations of the churches and the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A. The American arrangements are in the hands of Rev. Ivan M. Gould, Secretary of the United Christian Youth Movement, 203 North Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Among the speakers already announced are the Archbishop of York, Dr. T. Z. Koo, Dr. Visser 't Hooft and Professor Reinhold Niebuhr. There will be a daily period of Bible study and daily discussion groups dealing with the following themes:

- Christian Youth in a World of Nations
- Christian Youth in the Nation and the State
- Christian Youth in the Economic Order
- Christian Youth and Education
- Christian Youth and Race
- Christian Youth and the Family Life
- The Church: Its Nature and Mission.

Two study outlines have been issued as preparatory materials: "The Christian Community in the Modern World," by W. W. Gethman and D. G. M. Patrick, (25 cents), and "Further Studies on the Christian Community in the Modern World" (20 cents). They may be obtained from the American office of the Provisional Committee of the World Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York.

New Book on Marriage

During the past four years the book for brides and grooms entitled "Foundations of Happiness in Marriage," written by Dr. L. Foster Wood, Secretary of the Federal Council's Committee on Marriage and the Home, has had four editions and has been widely used by pastors with couples whom they united in marriage. There has just come from press a new book, replacing the earlier one, entitled "Harmony in Marriage," embodying the best in the earlier volume but thoroughly revised and rewritten. New material also has been added, especially a chapter

on worship in the home containing a Home Dedication Service and suggested prayers and Scripture passages for family use.

A special feature of the new book is that Dr. Wood has had the assistance of Robert Latou Dickinson, M.D., leading medical authority on marriage, in those chapters which deal with sex and parenthood.

Although the earlier book rendered a valuable service, those who have seen the new one think it will have an even wider usefulness. It is published by the Round Table Press, New York, at \$1.00 cloth, 75c in white paper with a wedding certificate and in a white box.

Dr. Buttrick in Middle West

From April 24 to April 27 Dr. George A. Buttrick, President of the Federal Council of Churches, will be filling a series of important engagements in the Middle West. On the morning of April 24, he will address the Interdenominational Ministers' Meeting in Chicago. On the evening of the same day, he will speak at the Annual Dinner of the Minneapolis Council of Churches. On April 25, he will be the guest at the annual meeting of the Federated Churches of Cleveland, Ohio. The Congregational Union and the Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, which are meeting on the same day, will join in the luncheon. The following day Dr. Buttrick will be in St. Louis, participating in a one-day conference on evangelism, arranged by the Metropolitan Church Federation of St. Louis. On April 27, he will be the guest of the Kansas City Council of Churches during the day and in the evening will speak at the great Uniting Conference of American Methodism.

New Yearbook of American Churches

The 1939 Edition of the Yearbook of American Churches, edited biennially for the Federal Council by Dr. Herman C. Weber, will come from press at the end of this month. It is widely recognized as the volume which presents the most complete picture of American religious life. While dealing primarily with Protestantism, it has sections reporting the organization and activities of both Catholic and Jewish bodies.

The new Yearbook includes an up-to-date record of the organizations, agencies and publications, with addresses, of all American denominations. It also presents the most recent and authoritative statistics concerning church membership and contributions to religious work.

The volume is published by the Yearbook of American Churches Press, at \$5.00, with a special rate of \$3.00 for orders which are sent in before the publication date. Orders for the book should be sent to the Yearbook of American Churches Press, 42-54 Judge Street, Elmhurst, New York.

The editor, Dr. Weber, is President of the United Stewardship Council and a recognized authority on religious statistics and organizations.

The Week in Religion . . .

¶ Every week there appears on the church page of newspapers throughout the country a summary of the most important religious developments of national and international importance. This summary, called **"The Week In Religion"** and released by Religious News Service, is regarded by editors and religious leaders as the authoritative news summary.

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Canon Raven Meets American Churchmen

On March 23 Canon Charles E. Raven, Professor of Divinity at the University of Cambridge, England, was the guest of honor at a luncheon tendered by the Federal Council's Department of International Justice and Goodwill, attended by about a hundred persons especially interested in the relation of the Church to the issue of war and peace.

Canon Raven, who was an officer in the combatant forces of the British Army during the World War, explained how he had come to his present position as a Christian pacifist. He said that his change had been due to his deepened understanding of the significance of the Cross as the redemptive power in the world.

Professor Raven made a special plea that those in the Church who take the pacifist position and those who do not should work together in practical efforts for world peace and understanding. He felt that the maintenance of Christian fellowship within the Church between those who have divergent views is of the utmost importance. He recalled the bitterness which was shown in 1917-18 toward those who were conscientious objectors to war, and expressed the hope that there would be no such spirit in any of our churches in the future.

"Alcoholfax"

Alcoholfax Educational Service, issued monthly through the school year by Allied Youth, Inc., National Education Association Building, Washington, D. C., recently completed its most successful year of usefulness to teachers, editors, school administrators and a limited number of religious workers.

The service includes each month (except in mid-summer) articles, special bulletins, program helps, research summaries, reading lists, all supplied in loose-leaf form to fit a standard binder; ten copies of the current month's issue of *The Allied Youth*; reference and consultative service. When the contract is entered the subscriber may select one standard textbook and one pamphlet from the Allied Youth book list, while other printed items offered by Allied Youth from time to time are subject to a special discount to "Alcoholfax" clients. "Alcoholfax" is supplied at ten dollars per year.

Rebuilding the Church

"Rebuilding the Town and Country Church" is the title of a brochure by the Interdenominational Bureau of Architecture, Elbert M. Conover, Secretary, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York, which has recently gone into its third edition. It presents designs and plans regarding enlargement and remodeling smaller church buildings. Its plans are visualized with drawings and architects' sketches which make the publication of great practical value and suggestiveness, especially for the churches which are not prepared to spend great amounts of money on their edifices. The price is fifty cents.

NEWS OF STATE AND LOCAL COÖPERATION

Christian Manifesto Against Anti-Semitism

The Greater New York Federation of Churches is circulating through the churches of the city "A Christian Manifesto" designed to make their influence more effective in combating tendencies toward anti-Semitism. A letter which accompanies the manifesto suggests that Holy Week affords a special occasion for dissociating the crucifixion of Jesus from any connection with anti-Semitism.

The manifesto says in part:

"With genuine anguish of heart we behold how in many places across the world today cruel forces of oppression and persecution are being released upon men and women and children of Jewish race and blood. With profound concern we note from time to time within our own beloved democratic nation the manifestation of a spirit of anti-Semitism. . . .

"We would disavow any words or action prompted by the spirit of anti-Semitism which emanate from sources that purport to be Christian. Such words and actions label themselves unchristian.

"We call upon our Christian brethren to guard their hearts, their minds, their lips, their hands from emotions, thoughts, words or deeds that partake of 'the sin of anti-

Semitism' . . . We call upon our fellow citizens to remember that anti-Semitism is a threat to democracy and a denial of the fundamental principles upon which this nation is founded.

"We extend to our brethren and fellow-citizens of Jewish race and blood our solemn assurance that by the constraint of our own deepest Christian conviction we shall oppose unceasingly 'the sin of anti-Semitism' and we shall strive continuously for the realization of that brotherhood which humanity needs, democracy requires and Christianity demands.

"It is a tragic fact that the death of Jesus has been so grossly misinterpreted by those who are ignorant as to the real meaning of His life that it has been made a pretext for persecution and abuse of those of Jesus' own race and blood. In spite of the fact that intolerance, bigotry, hatred, and persecution are absolutely antithetical to His law of love there are still those who would attempt to bring His name into association with these foul things.

"It is incumbent therefore on those who truly love the name of Jesus and seek the consummation of His kingdom to present by the loyalty of their lives to His spirit of love a denial of this base misrepresentation and a positive demonstration of the fact that His spirit is a constraint to compassion and to brotherhood."

Cleveland Federation Loses Rev. F. D. Butchart

Rev. Franklin D. Butchart, for the past five years Associate Secretary of the Cleveland (O.) Federation of Churches, resigned as of March 1 to become District Representative in Ohio for the Save-the-Children Fund. Mr. Butchart will remain in Cleveland, with offices in the Society for Savings Building. The Save-the-Children Fund, which he is now to serve, undertakes to provide for underprivileged children in mountain communities.

White Leaders Honor Negro Colleague

Edward T. Graham, administrator of the Harlem District of the Home Relief Division, New York, was recently tendered a dinner by his staff as a tribute to his efficiency and skill in carrying on this important social service. The majority of those attending the dinner were white colleagues of Mr. Graham. The dinner was interpreted as a demonstration of effective interracial coöperation and of the leadership which Negroes can give in enterprises in which both Negroes and white participate.

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United Lenten Programs

As in other years, the councils of churches in the leading cities of the country have given leadership in the holding of impressive united meetings in the interest of strengthening the spiritual life. Typical of these programs is that of the Metropolitan Church Federation of St. Louis. Beginning on March 20 and continuing until Easter, daily services were held at noon in Christ Church Cathedral, with well-known speakers brought in from other cities each of whom spent a full week in St. Louis. On Good Friday in the Ambassador Theater a great noonday service is to be held with Dr. E. Crossley Hunter of Hamilton, Ontario, as the leader. On Easter Day at dawn the thirteenth Annual Sunrise Service will be held in an open-air stadium, the program being broadcast over a national hook-up. The amphitheater seats twenty thousand people and it is expected that it will be packed to capacity. Another feature of the St. Louis Lenten program is the showing of the motion picture "The King of Kings," depicting the life of Christ, each morning during Holy Week at the Missouri Theater. The picture is shown free.

The Easter Dawn Service of the Cincinnati Council of Churches is to be broadcast over the national networks of the National Broadcasting Company.

Catholic Bishop Represented at Hartford Council

For the first time in the history of the Hartford Council of Churches, the Catholic Church was represented at its annual meeting here. Rev. Andrew J. Kelly of St. Anthony's Church appeared and spoke on behalf of Bishop Maurice McAuliffe. In his message the Bishop said: "In these days when men's hearts are threatened, it is the duty of the churches to restore the spiritual dignity of man. There can be no good clean state without a good clean society."

Ohio Council Launches Publication

The Ohio Council of Churches last month revived the *Ohio Christian News* as a monthly publication in the interest of church coöperation and unity throughout the state. Beginning modestly as an eight-page monthly, it hopes soon to increase both in size and in frequency of publication. For the past seven years the *Christian News* has been discontinued as a result of the necessities of curtailed budget during the depression.

Rochester Sends Delegates to Labor Union

In order to promote closer contacts and understanding between the Church and labor, the Rochester (N.Y.) Federation of Churches recently appointed delegates who will attend the meetings of the Central Trades and Labor Council of that city. The delegates are: Dr. W. Harry Freda, Rev. Frederick Winnie, and Rev. James E. Rose.

Colorado Council Emphasizes Comity

Dr. Vere V. Loper, minister of First Plymouth Church, Denver, who has succeeded Dr. Clarence W. Kemper as president of the Council of Churches, has made a special plea for the strengthening of the comity department of the state council. In a special message written for *The Rocky Mountain Churchman*, he says: "There is much overlapping in the location of our churches, both in the city and the country. We have three churches where only one is needed and in other communities the Gospel is not preached at all. We have neither the power nor the desire to compel denominations to change their procedures, but we do constitute a center where denominational leaders can formulate a picture of the situation, draw up the beginnings of a more statesmanlike approach to our state, and create opinion to back a more effective use of church resources."

In an editorial message which he wrote on laying down his responsibilities as president of the Council, Dr. Kemper said: "We have shared some of the best of service in common with those whose background of denominational experience has been quite unlike our own. Maybe that was the reason, since we are reminded that the New Jerusalem is entered from all sides. We are reminded often that our own traditions treasured by us are enriched and made more worthwhile and enduring as they are reinforced by the richness of other religious traditions."

Philadelphia Celebrates Thirtieth Anniversary

The Philadelphia Federation of Churches is observing its Thirtieth Anniversary this spring. The program includes a dinner on April 13, at which Dr. George A. Buttrick, President of the Federal Council, has accepted an invitation to be present and give an address.

Dr. E. A. E. Palmquist has been the Executive Officer since the first of November, 1920.

Sacramento Has Twenty-fifth Anniversary

On February 14 the Sacramento Council of Churches celebrated its silver anniversary and on that occasion did special honor to Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Goethe, who were chiefly responsible for the formation of the Council twenty-five years ago and who have been its devoted friends during all the subsequent years. At the celebration a report was presented which showed that as a result of federated effort the quarter-century showed a 400 percent increase in church membership in the city, about three times the rate of increase in the population.

Mr. Goethe's guidance and interest in church federation dates back to the days when he was engaged in missionary work

in Korea. As a result of his experience there he became convinced that Christian work, both at home and abroad, requires effective coöperation in order to achieve the largest results.

A six-point program for the Sacramento Council was outlined by Rev. A. Raymond Grant, minister of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, as follows:

- 1—To revitalize present membership of churches by reinterpretation of the Gospel.
- 2—Enlargement of church membership.
- 3—To study Sacramento to assign fields to the different denominations—to decide where new churches are needed.
- 4—Coöperation in aiding authorities in crime control and rehabilitation of criminals.
- 5—To stand for civil and religious liberties and peace throughout the world.
- 6—Christian eugenics to promote education for marriage and Christian home life.

Recognition of Walter Mee's Service

In recognition of the fact that Walter R. Mee has served continuously as executive secretary of the Chicago Church Federation for twenty years, he was granted a three months' leave of absence by vote of the annual meeting held on March 13. The board of trustees of the Federation is also asked to take steps to provide some plan for a retirement annuity for Mr. Mee when he shall have completed his work in behalf of the Federation. Mr. Mee has indicated his expectation of retiring within the next three to five years.

Laymen Lead in Creating New Council

In the creation of the newest Council of Churches, that in Poteau, Okla., the laymen of the community played an important part. At the meeting at which the officers were elected and the Council set in motion, on March 9, fifty lay men and women of the four coöperating churches assembled for dinner and for the formulation of plans. The President of the Council, Mrs. G. E. Carter, is a leader among the church women of the community. In each of the four commissions, dealing respectively with Christian education, social education and action, Christian world brotherhood, and evangelism both a lay delegate and the minister of each church is included.

What has happened in Poteau is an illustration of the growing interest in the organization of councils of churches for coöperative service in smaller cities. The movement started in Poteau on the initiative of Rev. James S. Griffes, minister of the First Presbyterian Church, who last August called together the ministers and Sunday school superintendents of the several churches. The creation of the Council was stimulated by a successful program for Education Week and also a young people's rally and an adult rally held even before it was decided to form the Council.

NEWS OF NATIONAL COÖPERATION

May Luncheons of Women

"Can Christians Bind the World Together?" The National Committee of Church Women brings this challenge to the Christian women of American communities, asking that they unite in a nation-wide observance of the May luncheon on May 4. The National Committee of Church Women has as its constituent members the Council of Women for Home Missions, the Committee on Women's Work in the Foreign Missions Conference and the National Council of Church Women.

A program outline has been prepared for the May luncheons and will be sent to anyone on receipt of five cents in stamps, by the National Committee of Church Women, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York. Last year the church women of 414 communities in 44 states and Canada reported having held interdenominational May luncheons for the first time.

National Music Week

Under the auspices of the National Music Week Committee, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, the week beginning the first Sunday in May is again to be observed as "National Music Week." The purpose of the observance is to encourage higher standards of music in America. The churches are invited to participate in the national program by an appropriate recognition of the significance of music in worship.

Report of Madras Conference

The findings and recommendations of the meeting of the International Missionary Council held at Tambaran, Madras, India, last December have now appeared in a volume entitled "The World Mission of the Church." The volume includes the full text of the reports of the various sections

and of the many special groups which discussed problems affecting the life and work of the Church as a Christian world community. It may be had from the International Missionary Council, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, at fifty cents.

Among the topics which are treated in the report are: "The Faith by Which the Church Lives," "The Nature and Function of the Church," "The Place of the Church in Evangelism," "The Witness of the Church in Relation to the Non-Christian Religions," "The Inner Life of the Church," "The Relation of the Church to the Changing Social and Economic Order," "The Christian Ministry of Health and Healing," "The Church and the International Order" and "Christian Coöperation and Unity."

Primer on Church Unity

In connection with the consultations now taking place between representatives of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. and the Protestant Episcopal Church looking toward the possibility of union, the two churches have issued a timely publication entitled "A Primer on Church Unity." It is not limited to the point of view of the Presbyterian or the Episcopal groups but surveys the whole problem of Christian unity and presents two study outlines which will be of practical value to any group of Christian people. The first outline covers a period of eleven meetings. The second, and briefer one, is limited to six. In both cases the world situation in which the Church is set today is the point of departure and the outlook is that which has come to be associated with the Oxford and Edinburgh Conferences. A series of six brief chapters entitled "Let's Look at the World," "Some False Solutions," "Christianity's Answer," "The Problem of Church Unity," "Movements Toward Unity" and "What Can We Do?" give stimulating materials as a basis for discussion. The booklet presents as an appendix the proposed Concordat between the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. and the Protestant Episcopal Church and also the Proposed Statement on Reunion submitted by representatives of these two bodies.

The booklet is available at twenty-five cents from the Westminster Press, Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, Pa., or the Church Missions House Book Store, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York.

spoon Building, Philadelphia, Pa., or the Church Missions House Book Store, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York.

Methodist Women and the Church

The Uniting Conference of American Methodism, which is to be held in Kansas City this month, will receive a memorial drafted by the Women's Missionary Council of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, appealing both for more adequate representation of women in the official conferences of the Church and also for the right of women to be ordained as ministers. The statement of the Women's Missionary Council points out that, "while women compose approximately two-thirds of the membership of the church, only ten percent of the membership of the Uniting Conference are women."

Urges Calendar Reform

That the interest in the reform of the calendar is becoming widespread is indicated by an article written by Rev. Swami Omkar, a Christian of India and head of an Indian *ashram*. In his advocacy of the proposed calendar of the World Calendar Association, he says:

"This new World Calendar, keeping to the familiar 12 months, adjusts the length of these so as to make equal quarter-years of 91 days and to bring the New Year day always on January 1st, a Sunday, the first day of the week. This is done by thinking of the calendar as having 364 days and setting aside the 365th day of the solar year as an extra day which has no part in the last quarter yet belongs to the old year. It is regarded as an extra Saturday, a day of passage, the connecting link between the old and the new year. It is confidently expected that this last day of the year, 'Year-End Day', will be universally observed as an international holiday throughout the world, encouraging thereby world unity and world amity. This balanced and harmonious arrangement of the calendar will have days, weeks, months or quarters all meeting in perfect agreement four times every year at the end of every quarter. Holidays, festivals and national days are thus celebrated forever on the same weekday and date year after year. To know the World Calendar for one year is to know it for all years."

Copies of Swami Omkar's article can be had free upon request from Miss Elisabeth Achelis, President of the World Calendar Association, 630 Fifth Avenue, New York.

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Pastoral Psychiatry

By JOHN SUTHERLAND BONNELL

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The Case for Theology in the University

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Psychological Factors in Marital Happiness

By LEWIS M. TERMAN AND OTHERS

McGraw-Hill. \$4.00

These authors have given us the most complete statistical picture of American marriage yet provided, presenting anonymous answers on a large number of points from a representative group of 792 couples residing in California.

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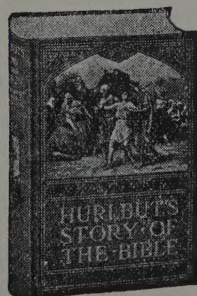
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marriage, while of those born after 1910 only 13.6 percent of the husbands and 31.7 percent of the wives came to marriage without previous sexual experience. The authors conclude that at the present rate virginity at marriage would disappear for males born after 1930 and for females born after 1940. The report suggests that the rate will become somewhat retarded, however, as the zero point is reached. The question may well be raised whether we are dealing here with a trend which will continue in the same direction or whether the time will not come when the pendulum will swing the other way. The study itself shows virginity correlated with a higher rate of happiness in marriage and when this fact becomes more firmly established it may have quite an influence on those who are preparing for marriage.

The authors hold that religious training appears not to be a factor in marital happiness, but it is obvious that they need to give more thorough-going study in this field. There must also be discrimination between the kind of religious training which is irrelevant to marital happiness and that which might have a very distinct bearing. Religion at its best promotes the types of behavior which register positively in the scores of marital happiness which these authors present.

Many will feel that too scant regard has

been shown for students of the subject who have used other methods than the questionnaire. At certain points the book shows too little respect for clinics and for the findings of psychiatrists. Many will feel also that the authors' apparent suspicions of moralists do not distinguish sufficiently between one sort and another. At any rate, the findings of this study show a high degree of agreement with the observations of those who have been teaching the ethics of marriage in the most enlightened way. L. F. W.

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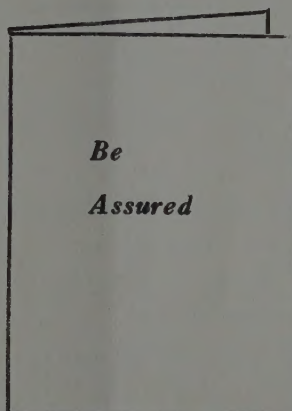
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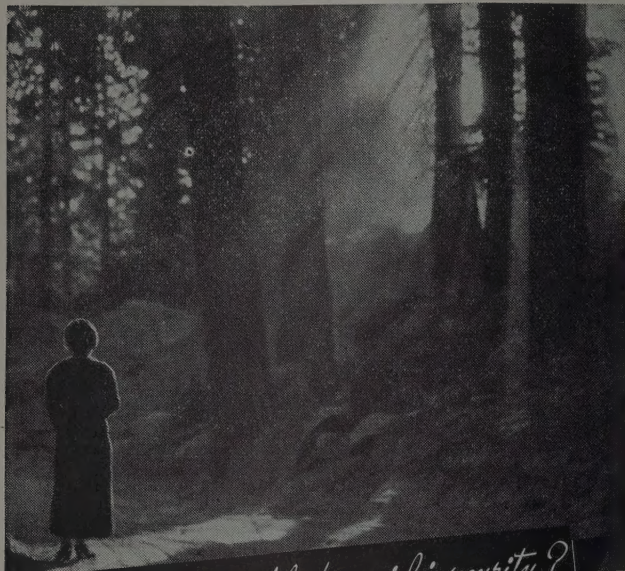
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